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Canadian Embassy



Ambassade du Canada

501 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

April 4, 2003

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852
ATTN: Docket No. 02N-0276

"Registration of Food Facilities"

The Government of Canada welcomes the opportunity to review and provide comments on the above-referenced notice of proposed rulemaking as published by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Department of Health and Human Services, in the *Federal Register* of February 3, 2003.

We find the requirement for all non-U.S. based food facilities to identify a U.S. resident agent as a condition of import to be an unreasonable and unnecessary requirement. We believe that the United States would find such a measure to be unacceptable if imposed on U.S. exporters by other countries. Consequently we request the U.S. agent identification to be optional.

If you have any questions on the submission, please contact the undersigned at 202-682-7629.

Sincerely,

John Masswohl
Agriculture & Fisheries Counsellor
Canadian Embassy

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